

Chief. He served in that position as a volunteer for 13 years; in 1976, the needs of Madison County had grown so much that the position of Fire Chief became a full-time, paid position.

In his more than 50 years with the Madison County Fire Department, Chief Holmes has served on the Board of Directors for the Tennessee Fire Chiefs Association and served from 1978 to 1980 as President of that association. He has received many awards, including the Good Conduct Medal, the Army's National Defense Service Medal, the Jackson Exchange Club's "Man of the Year" Award in 1975, and the First American Red Cross Humanitarian Service Award in 2005. In 1965, he appeared in "Outstanding Young Men of America." Chief Holmes has also held various leadership roles at the Bemis United Methodist Church, to which he and his family belong.

Fire protection service to our community is important to the entire Holmes family. Kelly says "his number one assistant" is his wife, Willadene, who has also served the Madison County Fire Department for 50 years as a dispatcher and secretary. For 30 years, his son Ralph served the Jackson Fire Department, from which he retired as Battalion Chief, and spent his off days as Head of Maintenance and Captain for the Madison County Fire Department. Chief Holmes' grandson Joe has served 4 years with the Madison County Fire Department as a firefighter.

Among Chief Holmes' greatest moments of service was his leadership in responding to a 1978 train derailment and propane explosion in Waverly, Tennessee, that had killed several, including the local police and fire chiefs, and destroyed several city blocks. Chief Holmes and the firefighters serving with him put their lives on the line in a very precarious situation, knowing that a second propane car at the center of the fire could have exploded at any time. Tennesseans were grateful for the courage and dedication displayed by Chief Holmes and other responders.

Madam Speaker, I have long been proud to call Chief Kelly Holmes my friend. I thank you and our colleagues for joining me in expressing gratitude for his service protecting West Tennessee families and congratulating him on his retirement, which will allow him to spend time with his family and—in his words—"enjoy the country life." We wish him all the best.

THE NATIONAL EXCHANGE CLUB'S FIGHT AGAINST CHILD ABUSE

HON. ANDER CRENSHAW

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mr. CRENSHAW. Madam Speaker, I rise to commend the National Exchange Club and the Jacksonville and Jacksonville Beaches Exchange clubs on their continuing commitment to fight child abuse and to recognize those in our communities who fight against it on a daily basis. Members remind me that "These are America's children and this is America's responsibility."

From July 14–18, 2009, local and national leaders and concerned citizens will gather at Metropolitan Park for a Healing Field flag memorial. At that time, 1530 American flags will be flying. Each flag will be in honor of a child

abuse victim. 146 of the flags represent children of Florida. The display will be a colorful reminder that child abuse is a national problem, and we all must work to prevent it.

During this weeklong event, flags will also fly to honor Jacksonville's fallen military in the current conflict, and fallen police and fire officers.

Also at this time, the 91st annual convention of the National Exchange Club will be hosted in Jacksonville. Club members will erect the display and maintain this awe-inspiring memorial during the convention. This patriotic display was established by the Healing Field Foundation to shine light on an ugly subject—child abuse in America.

Recently, at one of my local Exchange Clubs, I congratulated those who work in the field to prevent child abuse on their commitment to children from families who often are in fragile situations. Talk about unsung heroes! For every child who finds a sanctuary, hundreds are living day-to-day in often precarious situations. The flags represent those who paid a terrible price for something they did not do. These children depend on you and me to become aware and help extend them a lifeline.

My wife Kitty and I are concerned about the growing problem of child abuse not only in America but across the globe. As the economic situation worsens, it is our fear that more children will become victims. I hope that families in Jacksonville will go to Metropolitan Park with their children and experience this moving and patriotic display. None of us can do this alone but there is tremendous strength in our combined actions. It is too late for those memorialized in the Healing Field but for more of our children life is a risky business.

The National Exchange Club and its local clubs are willing to step forward to illuminate a growing problem in our nation. I hope that the Healing Field will move us to action. I thank the Speaker for the time to address the House on this important issue.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. JOHN FLEMING

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mr. FLEMING. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding earmarks I received as part of H.R. 3082, the "Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2010."

I have requested funding for the Multi-Purpose Machine Gun Range project in Fiscal Year 2010. The entity to receive the funding for this project is the United States Army, located at Fort Polk/Joint Readiness Training Center, Louisiana. FY10 funds would provide for the construction of a standard design Multi-Purpose Machine Gun Range, required to train and test soldiers on the skills necessary to detect, identify, engage and defeat targets in a tactical environment. Fort Polk does not currently have a suitable training area that meets the requirements needed for machine gunnery. Without this facility, the soldiers of Fort Polk, Reserve, and National Guard units will not be able to maintain efficiency for live fire training for machine gun engagements.

Consistent with the Republican Leadership's policy on earmarks, I hereby certify that to the best of my knowledge, this request: (1) is not directed to an entity or program that will be named after a sitting Member of Congress, (2) is not intended to be used by an entity to secure funds for other entities unless the use of funding is consistent with the specified purpose of the earmark, and (3) meets or exceeds all statutory requirements for matching funds where applicable. I also hereby certify that neither I nor my spouse has any financial interest in this project.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding an earmark I received as part of H.R. 3082—Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Act, Fiscal Year 2010.

Requesting Member: Congressman LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART

Bill Number: H.R. 3082—Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Act, Fiscal Year 2010

Account: Military Construction—Army
Legal Name of Requesting Entity: SOUTHCOM Headquarters, Incr 3

Address of Requesting Entity: United States Southern Command, Doral, FL 33122

Description of Request: I have secured \$55,400,000 to complete construction of a new headquarters for the United States Southern Command in Doral, Florida adjacent to the existing facility. Currently, the Department of Defense is leasing the land on which SOUTHCOM is now located from a private individual. The land for this facility is leased from the State of Florida. SOUTHCOM received \$100 million in the FY08 Military Construction Appropriations bill and \$81.6 million in the FY09 Military Construction Appropriations bill as the first two installments of \$237 million, authorized by section 2101(a) of the Military Construction Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2008 (division B of Public Law 110–181; 122 Stat. 504).

HONORING RETIRING
MURFREESBORO CITY MANAGER
ROGER HALEY

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mr. GORDON of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Murfreesboro City Manager Roger Haley. After serving the citizens of Murfreesboro for the last 20 years, Roger will retire on August 1. Before becoming city manager in 1989, Roger was a Murfreesboro City Councilman for nine years.

In the last 20 years, Murfreesboro's population has increased from 44,000 to over 100,000. It is currently the sixth largest city in Tennessee and the largest city with a city